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New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 31 July 2013 from the Permanent Representatives of Benin and Cameroon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

We have the honour to inform you of the following:

As part of their efforts to combat the piracy and armed robbery at sea plaguing their countries, the Gulf of Guinea Heads of State and Government decided to convene a regional summit in order to establish an integrated framework to combat this scourge, which is threatening stability and having a negative impact on transport and international maritime trade as well as on the economic development of the coastal and landlocked countries of the region.

The Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Commission of the Gulf of Guinea (CGG), which the Security Council, in its press statement of 30 August 2011 (SC/10372) and its resolutions 2018 (2011) and 2039 (2012), had encouraged the States concerned to convene, was held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, on 24 and 25 June 2013.

The Yaoundé Summit adopted four key strategic documents which are available at: http://www.grosfichiers.ch/index.php?option=com_grosfichiers&cid=h161ij9513egtcbgcdiojb5th1&task=resultat%20\\9620_blank.

These documents are:

- Code of conduct relating to the prevention and suppression of acts of piracy, armed robbery at sea against ships and illicit maritime activities in West and Central Africa
- Memorandum of understanding between ECCAS, ECOWAS and CGG on safety and security in the maritime space of West and Central Africa
- Political declaration of the Heads of State and Government
- Final communiqué of the summit

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The States of the Gulf of Guinea would be very grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

Furthermore, the States of the Gulf of Guinea would greatly appreciate the Security Council taking note of the Summit outcomes by adopting a new resolution in which it would do the following, among other things:

(a) Invite the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the necessary measures to support the implementation of these regional Summit outcomes and to coordinate efforts aimed at mobilizing the resources required to strengthen national and regional capacities in order to effectively combat this scourge;

(b) Invite international partners to provide support to the States and organizations of the region, particularly ECOWAS, ECCAS and CGG, at their request, so as to enable them to strengthen their capacity to combat piracy and armed robbery at sea.

The States members of ECOWAS, ECCAS and CGG trust that they can count on the Security Council's customary concern for creating the legal conditions necessary to mobilize international assistance in order to help the relevant States and organizations mount sustained efforts to combat this threat against regional and international peace and security.

(*Signed*) Jean-Francis R. **Zinsou**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Benin to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Michel **Tommo Monthe**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the United Nations